

What is claimed is:

1. A system for managing requests from a plurality of clients for access to a set of resources, comprising:

a plurality of servers having the set of resources partitioned thereon, each server
5 having

a load monitor process capable of communicating with other load monitor
processes for generating a measure of system load, and

a client load on each of the plurality of servers.
2. A system according to claim 1, further comprising:

10 a client distribution process, responsive to

the system load, and capable of repartitioning

the set of client connections for distributing

client load.
3. A system according to claim 1, further comprising

15 a load distribution process for determining resource loads when moving clients
among servers.
4. A system according to claim 1, further comprising:

a client allocation process for causing a client to communicate with a selected one of said plurality of servers.

5. A system according to claim 1, further comprising:

a client allocation process for distributing incoming client requests across said plurality of servers.
6. A system according to claim 2, wherein the client distribution process includes a round robin distribution process.
7. A system according to claim 2, wherein the client distribution process includes a client redirection process.
- 10 8. A system according to claim 2, wherein the client distribution process includes a disconnect process for dynamically disconnecting a client from a first server and reconnecting to a second server.
9. A system according to claim 1, further comprising:

an application program executing on

at least one of the servers and being capable of transferring a client connection to a different server.
10. A system according to claim 1, further comprising:

an adaptive client distribution process for distributing clients across the plurality

of servers as a function of dynamic variations is measured system load.

11. A system according to claim 1, further comprising:

a storage device for providing storage resources to the plurality of clients.
12. A system according to claim 1, further comprising:

5 a storage service process for providing at least one volume of storage partitioned
across the plurality of servers.
13. A storage area network, comprising:

a plurality of servers each configured as a server of claim 1.